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LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PORTUGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on the constitutional referendum in Zimbabwe, issued on 25 February 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
Permanent Representative of
Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the constitutional referendum in Zimbabwe, issued on 25 February 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union notes that the referendum which took place on 12 and 13 February confirmed the commitment of the people of Zimbabwe to participate in the political life of the country, thus contributing to the strengthening of democracy in Zimbabwe. The European Union also welcomes the orderly and peaceful manner in which the vote was held.

The European Union hopes that the 2000 Parliamentary elections will be conducted in a similar peaceful and orderly climate with respect to the rules and principles of democracy as the basis for the further development of the country.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.